

To: Serena McIlwain, EPA Region 9 Disputes Decision Official

This letter is to serve as the Walker River Paiute Tribes appeal of the EPA Region 9 decision not to fund our Air Monitoring Project for FY 15-16. I Corey Tom have worked as the Air Quality Technician for the Walker River Paiute Tribe for the last 4 years and had worked with our Project Officer Roy Ford to ensure that we did everything required of us. Any time Mr. Ford had a concern we immediately worked to correct it. Last year was a difficult year for us with a number of issues beyond our control. Working with Mr. Ford we thought these issues were addressed and corrected, such as the Quality Assurance Project Plan for our PM10 monitor, when Mr. Ford brought it to my attention that we needed to submit a new plan for review I immediately completed a Draft and submitted it to him and Eugenia McNaughton on May 6, 2015. Roy never sent me the email address for Dave Taylor. In talking with Sara Bartholomew neither Roy nor Eugenia logged it in.

Our submitting air monitoring data in to AQS has been done, however we were below the 75% mark due to my being off on medical for 2 months, and our Tribe doing work on our server and leaving my system outside the Firewall there by breaking the port forwarding to my system. The first Quarter of FY14 after coming back to work after the program ran out of funds I found that the power had been shut off to the site. After restoring power I was not able to bring the site online and needed to have a PA from the TAM's center in Las Vegas NV come and help he was unable to schedule a visit till the beginning of December 2013 so there was only a couple weeks of data for the first quarter, Fletcher Clover with the EPA AQS advised me to null the data. Shortly after that I was on medical leave for two months and came back to find the server had been worked on and I was left outside the fire wall. Again there was very little data collected and advised to null data. I had been plagued by break downs.

The work plan in question was not brought to my attention till May 2015. I did not submit the grant it was done by our Environmental Director, 8 months into the fiscal year I was notified there was no final work plan. Why was this not brought to our attention way earlier in the year. It seems to me that we are being punished for EPA's lack of oversight. Our Project officers are supposed to help us succeed in our goals. And when we talk to them on the phone and they say we are good you expect that everything is ok.

Respectfully,

Corey Tom, Air Quality Technician

Walker River Paiute Tribe